

FISCAL NOTE

Bill #: SB0417

Title: Governor petition U.S. government for rules on roadless areas in nat'l. forests

Primary Sponsor: Curtiss, A

Status: As Introduced

Sponsor signature

Date

David Ewer, Budget Director

Date

Fiscal Summary

	<u>FY 2006 Difference</u>	<u>FY 2007 Difference</u>
Expenditures:		
General Fund	\$488,667	\$0
Revenue:		
General Fund	\$0	\$0
Net Impact on General Fund Balance:	(\$488,667)	\$0

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Significant Local Gov. Impact	<input type="checkbox"/> Technical Concerns
<input type="checkbox"/> Included in the Executive Budget	<input type="checkbox"/> Significant Long-Term Impacts
<input type="checkbox"/> Dedicated Revenue Form Attached	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Needs to be included in HB 2

Fiscal Analysis

ASSUMPTIONS:

Governor's Office

1. The following assumptions are for professional time for foresters, planners, engineers, and other professional people. It is assumed that these would not be employees of the Governor's Office, since that would be impractical, but rather that the Governor's Office would either reimburse or recognize these costs where they would actually be incurred.
2. Consultation with professional state, private, and forest service foresters would total \$97,500 (\$65,000/year x 6 months each x 3).
3. An analysis of past catastrophic fires and future wildfire risks would be \$42,500. [Produce GIS map layers for analysis \$10,000. Consultation with Fire analyst \$32,500 (6 months @ 65,000/year).]
4. Review of prior roadless area designations for legitimacy is estimated at \$100,000. [Four analysts with roadless Boundary Maps and Photos. (\$50,000/year x 6 months each x 4 people).]
5. Analysis of the need for access to state land and private land would be \$6,167. [Production of GIS layers \$2,000 and consultation with Analyst \$4,167. (1 month @ \$50,000/yr)]
6. Consideration of local conditions for each proposed roadless area would be \$130,000. [Consultation with four Resource Specialists. (6 months each @ \$65,000/year)]

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(continued)

7. Consideration of the social and economic impacts of each proposal is estimated at \$70,000. [Consultation with one Sociologist and one Economist (6 months each @ \$70,000/year)]
8. An analysis of the value of existing roads as they relate to sustaining forest health and providing access for emergency responses would total \$32,500. [Consultation with one Engineer and one Forester. (3 months each @ \$65,000)]
9. Review of the collected analyses, soliciting input from the county commissioners and state legislators for each county that may be affected by the proposal information that addresses each of the requirements of subsection (3), and conducting public hearings would total \$990,000. (33 counties @ an average of \$30,000/county). Some counties may expend \$50,000 while some may expend \$10,000, depending on the roadless area in their county. An average of \$30,000 is used.
10. The cost to prepare and distribute a report documenting the consideration given to local concerns raised during the petition process would be \$10,000.
11. This information would be incorporated pursuant to subsection (4) into the state petition for the Secretary of Agriculture.

FISCAL IMPACT:

	<u>FY 2006 Difference</u>	<u>FY 2007 Difference</u>
Governor's Office		
<u>Expenditures:</u>		
Operating Expenses	\$488,667	\$0
<u>Funding of Expenditures:</u>		
General Fund (01)	\$488,667	\$0
<u>Net Impact to Fund Balance (Revenue minus Funding of Expenditures):</u>		
General Fund (01)	(\$488,667)	\$0

EFFECT ON COUNTY OR OTHER LOCAL REVENUES OR EXPENDITURES:

Included in the fiscal impact is an estimated \$990,000 total cost to 33 Montana counties (assumption #10).